GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:482
ANSWERED ON:29.04.2005
RAJIV GANDHI GRAMEEN VIDYUTEEKARAN YOJANA
Ponnuswamy Shri E.;Sethi Shri Arjun Charan

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has launched Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyuteekaran Yojana under the Rural Electrification Programme recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the broad objectives of this Yojana;

(c) the funds allocated to each State under the Yojana along with the share of State and Union Government therein;

(d) whether several districts in the country were identified under the Yojana;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether village Panchayats are also to be involved in implementing the Yojana to achieve desired goal; and

(g) if so, the number of rural population below poverty line targeted to provide electricity under this scheme?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED)

(a) to (g) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (g) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 482 TO BE ANSWERED IN THE LOK SABHA ON 29.04.2005 REGARDING RAJIV GANDHI GRAMEEN VIDYUTEEKARAN YOJANA.

(a) & (b) : Yes, Sir. The `Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana Scheme of Rural Electricity Infrastructure and Household Electrification` has been launched for the attainment of the National Common Minimum Programme of providing access to electricity to all Rural Household in five years. The scheme would be implemented through the Rural Electrification Corporation (REC).

Under this scheme 90% Capital Subsidy would be provided for projects for:

(i) Creation of Rural Electricity Distribution Backbone (REDB) with one 33/11 kV (or 66/11 kV) substation in every block appropriately linked to the State Transmission System.

(ii) Creation of Village Electricity Infrastructure (VEI) for electrification of all un-electrified villages/habitations and provision of distribution transformer(s) of appropriate capacity in every village/habitation.

(iii) Decentralized Distributed Generation (DDG) and Supply System from conventional sources for Villages/Habitations where grid supply is not cost effective and where Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources would not be providing electricity through their programme(s).

The scheme inter alia provides for financing of electrification of all un-electrified Below Poverty Line (BPL) households in the country with 100% capital subsidy as per norms of Kutir Jyoti Programme in all rural habitations.

For projects to be eligible for capital subsidy under this scheme prior commitment of the States would be taken before sanction of the projects for:

(i) deployment of franchisees for the management of rural distribution in projects financed under this scheme.

(ii) provision of requisite revenue subsidy to the State utilities as required under the Electricity Act, 2003.

The States would also be required to make adequate arrangements for supply of electricity and there should be no discrimination in the hours of supply between rural and urban households.

The scheme would also cater to the requirement of agriculture and other activities including

- Irrigation pumpsets
- small and medium industries
- khadi and village industries
- cold chains
- healthcare
- education and IT

This would facilitate overall rural development, employment generation and poverty alleviation.

(c) : It is estimated that Rs.16,000 crore would be required for the entire scheme. For Phase-I of the scheme approved for implementation during the 10th Five Year Plan Period, Rs.5,000 crore has been provided by the Central Government as Capital Subsidy.

(d) & (e) : The scheme covers the entire country and the funds would be released on the basis of sanction of the projects submitted.

(f) : Panchayat institutions would be associated in the management of rural electricity distribution through franchisees who could be Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Users Associations, Co-operatives or individual entrepreneurs.

(g) : According to estimates of the scheme, 2.34 crore rural households living Below Poverty Line (BPL) are targeted for electrification under this scheme.